

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A process for repairing a coated automotive substrate surface comprising the following successive steps:

- a.) providing a blemished area in the automotive substrate surface to be repaired,
- b.) optionally, preparing the blemished area to be repaired,
- c.) providing at least one backing film coated on one side with an uncured or only partially cured coating layer of a thermally curable coating composition,
- d.) applying the at least one backing film with its coated side onto the blemished area to be repaired,
- e.) supplying thermal energy to the coating applied in this manner onto the blemished area to be repaired by at least one conventional infrared radiation emitter or a near infrared radiation emitter positioned away from the at least one backing film and
- f.) removing the at least one backing film, wherein the supply of thermal energy onto the coating proceeds through the at least one backing film to the coating layer of the thermally curable coating composition of step c) ~~and/or after removal of the at least one backing film and the remaining applied layer after removal of the backing film is the coating composition of step b);~~

whereby the blemished area of the coated automotive substrate surface ~~coating on the surface of the substrate~~ is repaired .

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the uncured or only partially cured coating layer of step c) comprises a coating layer with a tacky surface.

- Claim 4. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the thermally curable coating composition comprises a coating composition with free-radically polymerizable binders.
- Claim 5. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the thermally curable coating composition comprises a coating composition with binders cross-linkable by means of polycondensation and/or polyaddition reactions.
- Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein a backing film with a protective film on one or both sides is provided in step c) .
- Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein application of the at least one backing film in step d) proceeds under pressure.
- Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, wherein supply of thermal energy applied to the blemished area to be repaired is performed with the near infrared radiation emitters positioned 20 to 70 cm from the backing film.
- Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the supply of thermal energy to the blemished area to be repaired is performed with near infrared radiation emitters which emit near infrared radiation of a wavelength range of 760 to 1200 nm and an intensity (radiation output per unit area) of 100 kW/m<sup>2</sup> to 15 MW/m<sup>2</sup>.
- Claim 10. (Canceled)
- Claim 11. (Canceled)
- Claim 12. (Canceled)